

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 49-50 and 52-66 remain pending. Claims 1-48 have been cancelled. Claims 61-66 are amended. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application in view of the amended pending claims and the following remarks submitted in support thereof.

Claim Objections:

Claims 61-66 were objected for incorrect dependency. Claims 61-66 have been amended to correct the dependency from claim 53 to claim 60. In view of the above, Applicants request Claim objections on claims 61-66 be removed.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103:

Claims 49, 50, and 52 - 66 were rejected under 35 USC § 103(a), as being unpatentable by U.S. Patent No. 6,795,826, to Flinn et al. (Flinn) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,014,135 to Fernandes (Fernandes). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Fernandes provides a plurality of icons representative of people, documents and time. Various functions are provided for interaction between these three elements such as composing and routing of documents. However, the icons in Fernandes function differently from those of the claimed invention. In Fernandes, when the icons are activated, the display area *changes* to an appropriate data input display interface for receiving data inputs from the display screen. (See Figures 3- 4, column 10, lines 50-65). Fernandes does not disclose or teach providing a document display area that defines a currently active program object and a neighborhood panel *alongside* document display area that includes list of users and list of program objects related to the currently active program object. This is contrary to the teachings of the claimed invention. Additionally, according to Fernandes, the documents generated by a selected program represented by a second icon are associated to plurality of first icons representing individuals or a plurality of third icons representing timeline but does not suggest or teach associating documents with a plurality of second icons representing other documents. (See column 12, lines 57-67, column 13, lines 1-33). This would be contrary to the teachings of Flinn. According to the claimed invention, a currently active program object represented by an icon uses *a portion* of a display screen, representing document display area, to display a data input display interface for executing the currently active

program object and to receive data input upon execution of the currently active program object while a list of related users and a list of related program objects are displayed concurrently in a neighborhood panel alongside. Just because Fernandes uses icons to graphically represent information and users, it does not mean that Fernandes is analogous art to the claimed invention or to Flinn. The motivation of Fernandes to “visualize the process needed to control the system” and motivation of Flinn for “an intelligent, adaptive method of organizing and retrieving information”, as cited by the Examiner, is not good enough to combine the two disclosures. Although combining Fernandes with Flinn may provide graphically indicative icons, the teachings of Fernandes, when an icon is activated, would cause a display area different from the one taught in Flinn. The icons representing active program objects of Fernandes in combination with Flinn would not provide the document display area to define a currently active program object that enables program interaction by a user *along* with a neighborhood panel that displays a list of related users and list of related program objects.

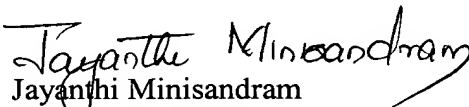
The Examiner asserts that the display area of Flinn is the same as the document display area of the claimed invention. The display area of Flinn includes first object summary of a selected object including meta-information and related objects. The first object summary includes meta-information, a display window that includes the meta-information for the object being presented. The meta-information of Flinn provides a context of each related object summary presented based on a search query. (*See column 9, lines 43-46*). The display screen of Flinn is purely to display the results of the search query and is not used for program object that enables program interaction by a user. Additionally, the display area of Flinn clearly does not have the icons that provide graphical or text indicator of a type for an accessible link. The link associated with related objects in Flinn are also part of the result from a search query. This is not the same as the claimed invention where the document display area defines a currently active program object that uses an area on the display screen to execute a program object and display output upon execution of the program object.

In view of the amendments and clarifications provided herein, the Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over Flinn in view of Fernandes. Therefore, the Applicants request the withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection of the pending claims.

Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions concerning the present Amendment, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at (408) 774-6905. If any additional fees are due in connection with the filing of this Amendment, the Commissioner is also authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-0805 (Order No. SUNMP406). A duplicate copy of the transmittal is enclosed for this purpose.

Respectfully submitted,
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